

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A data loading tool for loading a target database, comprising:

an initialization component operable to ~~use data and~~ obtain test data related information, identify a primary key of a first table of a source database in accordance with the test data related information, identify at least one secondary key of the first table, locate a second table of the source database relationally associated with the first table using data associated with the secondary key of the first table, and to generate a load file identifying at least one key related to the key of the first table and data associated with the at least one key that includes the primary key of the first table, data related to the primary key of the first table, a primary key of the second table, and the data related to the secondary key of the first table;

a control generator operable to generate at least one control file related to the source database;

an extractor component operable to extract data from the source database based on the load file; and

a loader component operable to load the data extracted by the extractor component into the target database utilizing the at least one control file, wherein the data loaded into the target database maintains the relational association of data in the source database.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The data loading tool of Claim 1, wherein the control generator generates a plurality of control files, at least one of the control files having information related to a structure of the source database.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The data loading tool of Claim 1, wherein the at least one of the control file[[s]] generated by the control generator is further defined as a data file with data structures that are void of data and wherein the extractor component extracts data from the database and writes the data to the data structures of the data file.

7-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method of loading a target database, comprising:

~~providing a portion of data related to~~ an indication of data desirably that is desired to be loaded in the target database;

~~providing a table list identifying a plurality of tables of a source database in an order specifying a relational aspect between the plurality of tables maintaining data to be extracted;~~

~~searching the table list with the indication to identify a first table containing a first portion of the data that is desired to be loaded in the target database;~~

~~providing a first key name related to one of the plurality of tables maintaining the portion of data;~~

~~identifying a secondary key of the first table;~~

~~associating the secondary key of the first table with the first portion of the data to identify a second portion of the data that is desired to be loaded in the target database;~~

~~searching the table list using the second portion of the data to identify a second table relationally associated with the first table;~~

~~identifying a secondary key of the second table;~~

~~associating the secondary key of the second table with the second portion of the data to identify a third portion of the data that is desired to be loaded in the target database;~~

~~generating a load file identifying at least the first table, the second table, and~~

the first, second, and third portions of the data that is desired to be loaded in the target database~~a second key name and a second portion of data associated with a second table of the plurality of tables of the database by using a relational aspect of the plurality of tables of the database;~~

generating a control file based on the source database and a data file;

extracting data from the source database to the data file in an order specified in using the load file; and

loading the data from the data file to the target database using the control file and the table list, wherein the data loaded to the target database maintains the relational aspect.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein providing the table list further comprises:

providing a graphical user interface identifying ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of tables of the database;

selecting at least one of the tables provided in the graphical user interface; and

providing the selected at least one table in the table list, wherein the selected at least one table in the table list is the first table.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein providing the indication of data that is desired to be loaded ~~portion of data~~ further comprises:

providing an input portion of a graphical user interface operable to receive input; and

inputting the indication of data ~~portion of data related to the data that is~~ desirably loaded in the target database into the input portion of the graphical user interface.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein the control file is based on at least a portion of a structure of the source database.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein the second key of the first table ~~name is further defined as a~~ primary key of the second table.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of testing an application using a test database, comprising:

providing a table list identifying at least some of the tables of a source database maintaining data;

generating a load list including a table name related to at least one of the tables in the table list of the database, a key name related to a primary key of the at least one table[[s]] and a portion of data associated with the primary key, by using the primary key and the portion of data to identify a secondary key of the at least one table and a second portion of data in the at least one of the table[[s]], identifying another of the tables in the table list with the secondary key as a primary key of the other table and the second portion of data associated with the primary key of the other table, using the primary key of the other table and the second portion of data to identify a secondary key of the other table and a third portion of data in the other table, wherein the load list further includes a table name of the other table in the table list, a key name related to the primary key of the other table, and the second portion of data associated with the primary key of the other table to associate with another key and another portion of data in another table of the database based on the relationships of the database;

generating at least one control file based on at least a portion of a structure of the database;

extracting at least some of the data from the source database to a data file
using the load list; and
loading the at least some of the data, ~~based on the load list and using the at
least one control file~~, from the data file to the test database based on the
load list and using the at least one control file;
testing the application using the test database.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein the portion of data and the
second portion of data is further defined as associated with a data desirable for
testing via the test database

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 19, further comprising associating the
secondary key of the at least one ~~of the table~~[[s]] with ~~[[a]]~~the primary key of a
~~second the other~~ table based on a relational association of the at least one ~~of the~~
table[[s]] and the other ~~second~~ table of the source database.

23. (Currently Amended) The method tool of Claim 19, further comprising providing a
plurality of key names and searching the at least one ~~of the table~~[[s]] for one of the
plurality of key names to locate the secondary key.

24. (New) The data loading tool of claim 1, wherein the at least one secondary key
of the first table is the primary key of the second table.

25. (New) The data loading tool of claim 1, wherein the test data related information is one of the primary key of the first table or the data related to the primary key of the first table.

26. (New) The data loading tool of claim 1, wherein the data related to the secondary key of the first table is data related to the primary key of the second table.

27. (New) The data loading tool of claim 1, wherein the initialization component is further operable to identify a plurality of secondary keys of the first table, locate a plurality of additional tables of the source database relationally associated with the first table using data associated with the plurality of secondary keys of the first table, and generate the load file to also include a primary key of each of the additional tables, and the data associated with the plurality of secondary keys of the first table.

28. (New) The data loading tool of claim 1, wherein the initialization component is further operable to identify a secondary key of the second table, locate a third table relationally associated with the second table using data associated with the secondary key of the second table, and generate the load file to also include a primary key of the third table and the data associated with the secondary key of the second table.

29. (New) The data loading tool of claim 1, wherein the initialization component is further operable to search a tables list that identifies tables of the source database for the test data related information to identify the primary key of the first table.

30. (New) The data loading tool of claim 29, wherein tables identified in the tables list are ordered in accordance with the relational association of data in the source database.

31. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the data file initially includes data structures for the data that is desirably loaded in the target database in accordance with the structure of the source database, and wherein the data extractor populates the data structures of the data file.

32. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of data that is desired to be loaded in the target database is the first portion of the data that is desired to be loaded in the target database.

33. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of data that is desired to be loaded in the target database is a primary key of the first table.

34. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein generating the load list further includes identifying a third table in the table list with the secondary key of the second table as a primary key of the third table and the third portion of data associated with the primary key of the third table, using the primary key of the third table and the third portion of data to identify a secondary key of the third table and a fourth portion of data in the third table, wherein the load list further includes a table name of the third table in the table list, a key name related to the primary key of the third table, and the third portion of data associated with the primary key of the third table.